

The area of the Sikh village is about 42 miles from Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital, and is controlled by armed Kashmiri groups that abandoned separatism and were recruited by the Indian army as a counterinsurgency auxiliary force.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2000 NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball team on winning the 2000 NCAA National Championship in outstanding fashion over the Tennessee Lady Volunteers. This is the second National Championship for the Huskies in five years. As a graduate of the University of Connecticut, I join the UConn community as well as residents throughout eastern Connecticut and across our State in celebrating an incredible team effort and season.

Anyone who watched the game on Sunday night cannot dispute the fact that the Huskies are far and away the best team in women's basketball. From the opening tip through the final buzzer, the Huskies dominated on offense and defense on route to a 71 to 52 victory—the second largest margin of victory ever in a women's NCAA championship game. The Huskies demonstrated once again why the program was the number one team in the nation for every single week of the 1999–2000 season. Sue Bird directed an incredible offensive attack with a combination of assists, scoring and hustle. All-American Shea Ralph, who earned Tournament MVP honors, demonstrated the tenacity on offense and defense which has become her trademark. She led the team with 15 points and finished the year as the team's leading scorer averaging more than 14 points per game.

All-American Svetlana Abrosimova, MVP of the East Regional final, sparked the Huskies' with an early 3-point bucket on her way to another spectacular game on both sides of the ball. She scored 14 points and finished the season averaging more than 13 points per game. Kelly Schumacher, who stepped into the starting lineup mid-season, was smothering on defense setting a tournament record with 9 blocked shots. Swin Cash added offensive punch scoring 9 points while finishing the season averaging nearly 10 points per game.

As UConn has demonstrated throughout the season, winning the championship was truly a team effort. Every player made contributions throughout the game and over the course of the season enabling the Huskies to compile a 36 and 1 record and, ultimately, to win another National Championship. Asjha Jones, who provided depth off the bench all season, scored 12 points—more than all but one Tennessee player. Tamika Williams, Kennitra Johnson, Paige Sauer, Stacy Hansmeyer, Marci Czel, Keirsten Walters and Christine Rigby each played important minutes in the championship game and throughout the course of the season.

I also want to offer congratulations to Head Coach Gino Auriemma. Coach Auriemma has led the Huskies to two National Championships, including an undefeated season in 1994–1995. He is widely viewed as one of the foremost coaches in collegiate basketball. He and his entire coaching staff—Chris Daily, Tonya Cardoza and Jamelle Elliott—deserve much credit for the Huskies' success this season and throughout the 1990s.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is safe to say that the UConn Women's Basketball program was one of the two most dominant in the nation in the 1990s. Over the past decade, UConn won 313 games, 2 national titles, 8 Big East championships, including 7 straight, and played in the NCAA tournament every year. Only Tennessee won more games. UConn's performance has helped to elevate the national profile of women's basketball—and women's sports in general—to an unprecedented level. The team can take pride in this achievement as much as any other.

I also believe that it goes without saying that the Huskies' fans are among the most dedicated in the nation. The Huskies have been number one in the nation over the past six years in home attendance attracting more than 983,000 fans. Fans from across the state and throughout New England travel to every game at Gampel Pavilion and the Hartford Civic Center. The enthusiasm of the Huskies' fans was evident this weekend as more than 20,000 people attended the women's championship game in Philadelphia.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join every resident of Connecticut and fans across the nation in congratulating the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball team on winning the 2000 NCAA National Championship.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF SGT. DELBERT L. ZIMMERMAN, JR.

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a fine gentleman, Sgt. Delbert L. Zimmerman, Jr. of Saginaw, MI, on the occasion of his retirement from the Michigan Department of State Police.

For 25 years Sergeant Zimmerman has served in Michigan as an officer with the State Police. He began his distinguished career as a civilian radio operator with the Michigan Department of State Police in 1974. On March 23, 1975, he was appointed to the 89th Recruit School as an enlisted member and graduated on July 17, 1975, whereupon he was assigned to a post in Jackson, MI.

Sergeant Zimmerman was transferred to my home town of Bay City, MI, on March 25, 1984, where he initially worked as a K–9 handler. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant and assigned to a post in Flint, MI, on June 28, 1988. Two years later he again returned to Bay City. On August 2, 1992, he transferred to the Traffic Services Section and was assigned to the Third District Headquarters. Last week, on March 31, Sergeant Zimmerman retired from his post.

During his distinguished career, Sergeant Zimmerman has received many awards. Time dictates that I only mention a few: the 1988

Bay City Post Trooper of the Year award, the 1991 Bay City Post Trooper of the Year award, and the 1984 National Police Association Professional Excellence award.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is fair to say that Sergeant Zimmerman has always worked hard to protect the men, women, and children, who rely daily on the courage and commitment of our State troopers. Likewise, I think it is also fair to state that Sergeant Zimmerman has provided steadfast guidance and leadership to his fellow officers. Such individuals are rare, and deserve our eternal thanks for dedicating their lives to protecting ours.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and our colleagues to join me in wishing the best in retirement for this dedicated public servant. It is my hope that Sergeant Zimmerman enjoys his newfound time with his family, his wife Kriste, and daughters Kayna, Jennifer and Molly. Again, on behalf of the many families in our neighborhoods that Sergeant Zimmerman has devoted his life to protecting and serving, I extend sincere and heartfelt words of thanks and appreciation, and offer my congratulations for his distinguished career.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF JOSEPH J. EGLIN, JR., ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ISSUES, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION, UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2000

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to Joseph (Jay) Eglin, Jr. on his retirement from the U.S. General Accounting Office [GAO]. Jay has served the Congress and the public in a long and distinguished career at the GAO that has spanned more than 37 years.

Jay began his career in the Los Angeles Regional Office and he is ending his career in Washington where he serves as the assistant director for Higher Education Issues in the Health, Education and Human Services Division. He has played a vital role throughout the years in identifying problem areas within the student loan program and providing solutions to long standing problems. Most importantly, some of those solutions have saved the Federal taxpayers millions of dollars that would have otherwise been lost to fraud and abuse within the program.

My committee has come to rely on Jay for solutions to numerous issues that arise in the context of administering a very large and complicated student loan program. His suggestions and recommendations for improvements have been invaluable over the years and especially during the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act in 1998. He was instrumental in helping the committee quantify the rapid increases in tuition and fees at colleges and universities across the country. This year, his involvement in the market mechanisms study required by the Higher Education Act has helped to move forward so that a timely report will be delivered to Congress. It is no easy task given the various interests represented by the study group and the complex issues involved.